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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/551,148	09/29/2005	Atsushi Ogiwara	1254-0294PUS1	4166
225/2	7590	02/26/2010		EXAMINER
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH				HURST, JONATHAN M
PO BOX 747				
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1797	
NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE			
02/26/2010	ELECTRONIC			

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

<b>Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/551,148  <b>Examiner</b> JONATHAN M. HURST	<b>Applicant(s)</b> OGIWARA ET AL.  <b>Art Unit</b> 1797
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**– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –**

THE REPLY FILED 16 February 2010 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1.  The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

a)  The period for reply expires 4 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.  
 b)  The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**NOTICE OF APPEAL**

2.  The Notice of Appeal was filed on \_\_\_\_\_. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

**AMENDMENTS**

3.  The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because

(a)  They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);  
 (b)  They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);  
 (c)  They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or  
 (d)  They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4.  The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).

5.  Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): \_\_\_\_\_.  
 6.  Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

7.  For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a)  will not be entered, or b)  will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.  
 The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:  
 Claim(s) allowed: \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Claim(s) objected to: \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Claim(s) rejected: 1, 3-8, 10-12, 14-19, and 21-22.  
 Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_.

**AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE**

8.  The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).

9.  The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fail to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).

10.  The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER**

11.  The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: (See Continuation Sheet).

12.  Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.  
 13.  Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

/Michael A Marcheschi/  
 Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1797

Continuation of 7: The newly amended claims stand rejected as outlined in the final rejection mailed 10/14/2010.

Continuation of 11: It is the examiner's position that the claims stand rejected as described in the final rejection mailed 10/14/2010.

It is noted that the applicant argues on page 10 of the response that the examiner has failed to establish *prima facie* obviousness with regards to the present invention but fails to provide any arguments directly addressing the specific rejections made. Furthermore it is noted that applicant does not argue the combination of references and merely argues that said references do not individually contain all the claim limitations.

Applicant argues on page 12 of the response that "Norton does not teach or suggest a method which comprises using multiple samples which contain at least one material which may be used as a reference".

It is the examiner's position that Norton does disclose a method wherein multiple samples contain at least one material which may be considered a reference. Specifically in Col. 8 Lines 23-33 of Norton, the reference discloses aligning a test sample data set to a reference sample data set by using "corresponding peaks" as a reference for the said aligning. In the present case the "corresponding peaks" are interpreted to correspond to the claimed "reference materials", i.e. the materials which cause the corresponding peaks are known to be common to multiple samples because they have the specific corresponding peaks and those materials are being used as a basis for time alignment. It is noted that while Norton may not disclose the said reference materials being specifically added to the multiple samples as a separate method step the Klee reference discloses such a method step and applicants have failed to argue the combination as applied.

Applicant argues on page 13 of the response that Klee "teaches away from the present invention, as Klee has a negative perception with regard to adding internal standards to gas chromatography to correct retention times".

It is the examiner's position that Klee does not in fact teach away from the present invention. It is noted that while Klee may contemplate problems which may arise in certain circumstances when internal standards are used Klee clearly teaches that adding internal standards, i.e. reference materials, to assist in time alignment is entirely possible and known in the art to be performed, even if not optimal in all circumstances.